Freedom Convoy 2022
Arrest/Vehicle Removal Plan
Rideau and Sussex Intersection

Situation

Background

The Freedom Convoy 2022 arrived in Ottawa on 28th of January 2022 with participants driving their trucks from all points across the country. The main demonstration was scheduled for the 29th and 30th of January and several truck operators returned home however there remains a large contingent of operators congesting many streets in the downtown core. These truckers vow to remain in place until Covid mandates are lifted across the entire country.

Currently, the most congested areas are Wellington (Elgin s/b and Kent), Wellington (Booth 1km west onto SJAM), Wellington (Lyon to Bay), Kent Street (Albert to Somerset), Rideau (Sussex to Sappers Bridge) and King Edward (Rideau to Murray).

While the various organizers have identified the protest as a "peaceful demonstration" there have been a level of unlawful activities including (but not limited to) road blockages, mischief to property, weapons offenses, harassment of homeless and elderly, mandate violations within area businesses, public urination and defecation and ongoing noise violations. Some areas of congestion have completely blocked emergency access to residences and businesses and in some cases it would be impossible to quickly respond to those areas given the level of congestion.

This plan relates specifically to the clearing of the Rideau and Sussex area.

Intel Assessment

<<to be added>>

Mission

The Mission of the Ottawa Police Service is to clear the Rideau/Sussex intersection and the immediate surrounding area of occupiers and obstructions.

Objectives:

- Ensure public safety remains a priority in any actions taken under this plan
- Apply the Federal and Provincial statutes where applicable
- Garner the peaceful cooperation from occupiers where possible
- Clear occupiers from the area
- Activate tow plan to remove vehicles left behind

Execution

Time of Operation

This operation is planned to commence on the ground at 0400 hrs on 10FEB22. A general briefing will be held at the EY Centre for 0230 hrs on that same date.

Area of operations

The immediate area of operations will be in the area of Sussex and Rideau around which protest vehicles are parked. The inner perimeter will extend to the outer most point in that area where vehicles are positioned. The outer perimeter will be determined by POU at the time of the operation and will be based upon what vehicles remain, where they are located and what buildings and structures can be used to support an outer cordon. This area will be the responsibility for the On-Site Incident Commander.

Outside the outer perimeter is the remainder of the occupied core. The NCRCC Incident Command will be provided static teams and QRTs to respond to potential issues at flashpoints outside the area of operations. These teams will focus entirely on emerging issues outside the outer perimeter.

Legislative grounds for actions taken under this plan

<<identify the legislative grounds for actions being taken under this specific plan>>

OPS staffing

The following police assets will be deployed under this plan. Their specific assignments will be described later.

- On-Site Incident Commander
- Operations Chief
- POU
- Tactical (overwatch, breaching team, CBRNE)
- PLT
- Traffic
- Site Teams
- EGT
- Negotiators
- COT
- Intel
- Arrest Teams and Prisoner Transport Vehicle

- Criminal Investigations Section
- Media
- Inventory Controller

External supports

- PPS
- OPP
- RCMP Rapid D <<required?>>
- Ottawa Paramedics
- Ottawa Fire
- OC Transpo
- Ottawa Roads/Barricades
- Ottawa Bylaw (parking and animal control)
- Children's Aid Society (CAS)

Concept of Operations

There will be six phases to this operation:

- Preparatory operations
- Mobilizations and deployment
- Arrest, securing and clearing
- Vehicle Removal
- Maintaining a secure cordon
- Demobilization

Detailed Process for Removal Operations

All attempts during this operation will conducted to minimize risk of personal injury for both protesters and police and to promote overall public safety. This includes pre-operation activities including:

- Ongoing PLT communications with protesters to garner voluntary compliance in leaving the area
- Pre-identifying any concerning items staged in and around the area of operations
- Gathering as much intelligence about protester plans to harden sites as much as possible
- Gathering as much information as possible in advance of operations about owner/operators for the vehicles parked in the inner perimeter
- Effecting arrests of agitators who we have identified as having outstanding charges in advance of operations

Phase 1 – Preparatory Operations

This phase will set the groundwork for subsequent phases.

Objectives

To garner voluntary compliance in people leaving the identified area before police operations begin.

Actions taken

Written, posted and media notice will be provided to occupiers advising of a fixed date and time that they are to vacate of be subject to removal and or charge.

PLT will continue with negotiations in an attempt to achieve compliance among occupiers in removing their structures, property and vacating the area.

COT will provide 24 -observation of the area gathering intelligence on mood and occupier plans.

Intel will attempt to identify main organizers and vehicles owners in the area, and research their background in an effort to inform a risk assessment to be provided to the Incident Commander. All attempts will be made to identify if tucks are occupied (as sleeping quarters) or left vacant overnight. A detailed image of the site from bird's eye level needs to be acquired prior to any mobilization.

Media Section will share ground level messaging to the mass media to garner support for police operations and encourage occupiers to leave.

Phase 2 - Mobilization and deployment

Objectives

During this phase, members will attend their respective briefings. Once completed the Incident Commander will provide final authorization to deploy based upon the most current intel and any public/officer safety concerns. The first teams to deploy will be the traffic and static teams. They will attend their identified locations.

Assignments

Traffic Officers will travel to their assigned locations below and stand by to shut down roadways as described. They will establish those closures when the Incident Commander or Operations Chief directs.

No vehicles will be permitted to pass towards the area of operations. The officers will also be able to provide Intel to the Incident Commander reporting additional supporters approaching on foot. Traffic officers will remain until the operations are complete or longer if directed. Traffic officers will be positioned at:

- (list traffic points)

Static Teams will be deployed to key areas in the core to other areas of high occupier concentration and these members will support and report to the NCRCC Incident Commander. This group can identify and initially manage potential crowd activity in flashpoint areas. These areas include:

- Wellington between Elgin and O'Conner (4 officers)
- Kent Street between Laurier and Albert (4 officers)
- Wellington between Lyon and Bay (4 officers)
- Bank between Laurier and Albert (4 officers)
- King Edward between Rideau and York (4 officers)

QRTs will deploy to the core and will work outside the anticipated outer perimeter. This group will also support and report to the NCRCC Incident Commander to respond to emerging issues identified by the Static Teams. If any of these teams are required to support within the area of operations, arrangements will be made through a request to the NCRCC IC. There will be 4 teams each with 4 officers to support where required.

Phase 3 – Arrest, Securing and Clearing

Objectives

This phase of the operation will include the establishment of an interior and exterior perimeter.

Once established, protesters will be instructed to leave the area. Those who refuse will be subject to arrest. Those who wish to leave with their vehicles will be told to leave at this time and will be provided an opportunity during the Phase 3 to remove their vehicle without it being towed. No vehicles will be allowed to drive out in this phase.

Staffing Assignments

Operations Chief will support the On-Site Incident Commander and ensure that all human resources and external supports are deployed and in position as required. This includes police resources in addition to OC Transpo Buses, Paramedics, Fire,

Traffic will have established and will continue to hold two vehicle corridors. The first will be an emergency ingress and egress route and will act as the primary route for all operations. This route will also act as the tow route in the next phase. The second route will be established for the next phase allowing those who wish to voluntarily exit with their vehicles to do so without risk of impacting the primary route. A detailed traffic plan can be found in the appendices.

POU will establish and hold an inner and outer perimeter. The inner perimeter will immediately encircle the area where protesters will be directed to leave. The outer perimeter will include areas for vehicle and pedestrian ingress to prevent further congestion on the site.

PLT will engage protesters once the secure cordons are established. All efforts will be made to coordinate a peaceful egress of those who wish to leave.

Arrest Teams will deploy into the cordon with arrest warrants for three high profile occupiers. As people are moved from the site, the three individuals will be identified and at the appropriate time taken into custody in a manner that minimizes risk to public and officer safety.

EGT's will be paired with PLTs and POUs capturing on video all interactions possible.

Tactical units will be positioned in the inner perimeter ready to immediately respond to a critical incident.

Site Teams will be deployed to potential flashpoints in other congested areas outside the inner perimeter. They will be responsible for identifying any emerging issues and requesting additional support from QRTs.

An **Inventory Controller** will be assigned along the exit route from the site for those protesters who voluntarily leave but wish to return at a later time to remove their trucks without the need for a tow. This member will record all necessary details to coordinate the return of the driver at the appropriate time to drive his/her vehicle from the site.

Phase 4 – Vehicle Removal

Objectives

This phase of will begin as soon as practicable after the completion of the second phase. The objectives are to remove as many vehicles as possible without lengthy delay. This can be done through voluntary compliance or through towing operations. This phase could take a considerable amount of time so all accommodations will be made to provide regular relief for officers.

Staffing Assignments

Traffic will maintain the traffic corridors established in Phase 2. They will also assist with the ingress and egress of tow vehicles through the primary route and egress of protest vehicles being driven out of the secondary route.

POU will continue to maintain the inner and outer perimeter. Members will be switched out to provide a scheduled relief for all in the event they are required to redeploy en masse

PLT will work with protesters who have left the site and assist in coordinating their return to voluntarily remove their vehicles at the appropriate time.

EGTs will capture video of the condition of each truck before being towed. EGT will also remain available to respond to flashpoints outside the inner perimeter to capture issues as they emerge.

Tactical units will remain available for immediate to critical incidents.

The **Inventory Controller** will coordinate the return of drivers at the appropriate time to ensure the voluntary removal of trucks is completed as quickly as possible.

Phase 5 – Maintaining Secure Cordon

Objectives

This phase of the operation will begin when the last vehicle is removed from the inner perimeter, or when the Incident Commander decides it is appropriate to stand down removal operations. This phase will continue to ensure that no other vehicles enter the cordon to "fill the void" created during the previous phases.

Staffing Assignments

Traffic will maintain the traffic corridors established in Phase 2. They will also assist with the ingress and egress of City vehicles brought in to support further operations.

POU will take instruction from the Incident Commander on standing down all or part of the teams. This will be determined based upon the protest situation at the time.

PLT will continue to work towards preventing new issues and will begin communication with driver/operators in other areas to have them voluntarily leave.

EGT will take direction from Incident Command on redeploying or demobilizing.

Tactical units will take direction from Incident Command on redeploying or demobilizing.

The **Inventory Controller** will take direction from the Operations Chief on reassignment.

City Services

There may be a requirement for additional operations to be conducted by city services during this phase. If required, the city will be called upon to:

- Seize and secure any remaining unattended property
- Clear the roadway of garbage of additional debris
- Clearing the roadway of snow or other natural obstructions (e.g. ice)
- Establishment of city barriers to prevent the movement of other trucks into the area.

Phase 6 - Demobilization

Objectives and Staffing

This phase will consist of a full withdrawal of resources from the inner and outer cordon. This withdrawal will be completed in the safest manner possible for police personnel. This phase will be conducted only

after all city barriers and traffic supports have been installed to prevent the movement of other trucks into the cleared area.

Police staff and secured traffic corridors dedicated under this plan will return to "normal" operations. Regular policing supports for this overall protest will remain in place.

Other Police Supports

External POU Teams from OPP, Durham, Sudbury, York <<identify when operation is moving forward>>

COT will be on the ground in the external area to identify any plans by supporters off site that may impact the area of operations.

Negotiators will be on hand to deploy should an occupier transition to a high-risk barricaded person inside a vehicle.

Hand of Teams with cruisers and a Prisoner Transport vehicle will be in the area to support arrests.

Criminal Investigations Section will remain staffed at the station ready to receive prisoners or to deploy to site as required.

Intel Section will be engaged to provide ongoing information to properly inform the Incident Commander.

Media Section will be on the ground available to the Incident Commander. The media representative will be responsible for monitoring social media and providing the Incident Commander of notable information in a timely manner. The media representative will also be responsible for replying to media requests from news reporters.

Other External Supports

The following external partners will provide support as indicated.

Towing operations will be conducted by <<identify>>. Drivers will be made aware of the staging areas, ingress routes, egress routes and storage facilities.

Truck mechanics from the city of Ottawa will be on site in the event that any owner/operators have mechanically disabled their vehicles in an attempt to prevent towing. These employees will only be expected to provide support for mechanical issues.

Ottawa Paramedics will be on site to deal with any unforeseen medical issues. They will be staged in the immediate area within the outer perimeter.

Ottawa Fire will be standing by on site to deal with fire issues as they may occur.

OC Transpo will have two buses positioned within the outer perimeter that can provide a warm environment for those people who have been displaced from their vehicles. Those people will be able to use the buses temporarily until they can make other arrangement during regular business hours.

OC Transpo Special Constables will be made aware of the operation so that they can provide support when the LRT stations open. The Special Constables can monitor and manage any displaced protesters that are looking for a place of warmth.

Ottawa Bylaw (parking and animal control) will be on site to deal with parking matters and animal control. Although there have been no reports of animals being kept in vehicles, animal control will be engaged to provide support if the animals are displaced and the owners do not have other facilities to provide for them.

City Roads (barricades, heavy equipment, debris and snow clearing) will be engaged and prepared to supply additional heavy barricading or equipment as required after the vehicles have been removed from the site. Once the vehicles are removed, they will also be expected to collect any debris or personal property that is abandoned on site, followed by snow clearing and salting to bring the roadways back to standard.

Children's Aid Society will be on standby. If there are children on site in which parents/guardians require additional supports because their accommodations are no longer accessible, CAS will deal with the safety of those children.

OPP will be made aware in case Operations cause an increased level of traffic support coming from outlying areas.

NCC and PPS will be advised of the operations in the event there are any collateral activity impacts on their respective properties.

Incident Response

It is imperative that the inner perimeter be maintained during the operation. POU members with support from PLT and Tactical members, will sweep the inner perimeter and remove all occupants. The start of this operation will be under the direction of the On-Site Incident Commander. Once people are moved from the inner perimeter, they will not be permitted to return unless under the direction and authorization of the Incident Commander.

Gathering Supporters

Any influx of supporters gathering on site to provide support for the occupiers will not be permitted inside the outer perimeter. POU members will be positioned at the established areas to ensure there is no further encroachment. Any CIC incidents that occur with that group fall to the on-site Incident Commander. Additional resources can be arranged in coordination with the NCRCC Incident Commander.

Arrests

Any arrests will be handled according to the arrest plan which is attached as an appendix.

CBRNE Incidents

CBRNE will be on site to support. Any actions taken by CBRNE will be completed following their Standard Operating Procedures. They will only be engaged as requested by the On-Site Incident Commander.

CIC Related Incident

A CIC member will be in directly assigned to these operations. He/she will be responsible for any critical incident that occurs within the established outer perimeter. The NCRCC Incident Commander will be responsible for all activities within the greater footprint but outside the outer perimeter. If a critical incident occurs in that zone, the NCRCC Incident Commander will call upon the Patrol CIC to manage.

Crowd Observation Teams

OPS will have a number of plain clothes Crowd Observation Teams deployed in the area. Their role is to proactively identify any persons or situations of potential concern. They will not identify themselves unless there are exigent circumstances where public safety is at risk.

All armed plain clothes members will have their firearms marked with white over yellow tape, clearly visible across the barrel. Furthermore, yellow tape will be on the butt end of any magazine.

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

Other Support Plans

The following sub-plans will support this overall plan:

- Traffic Plan (developed by <<name>>)
- POU Ops Plan (developed by S/Sgt M Stoll)
- Mass Arrest Plan (developed by S/Sgt M Bryden)
- Tactical Plan (developed by Sgt M Clement)
- Fuel Seizure Plan (developed by Sgt Kay)

Administration

Overtime

Officers will submit their overtime claims to:

REDACTED

Assignments

Traffic members, POU and PLT will be provided their assignments in advance of the briefing. All others will be advised at briefing.

Portable Radios

Members will take portable radios from their home location.

Communication/Command and Control

Command and Control

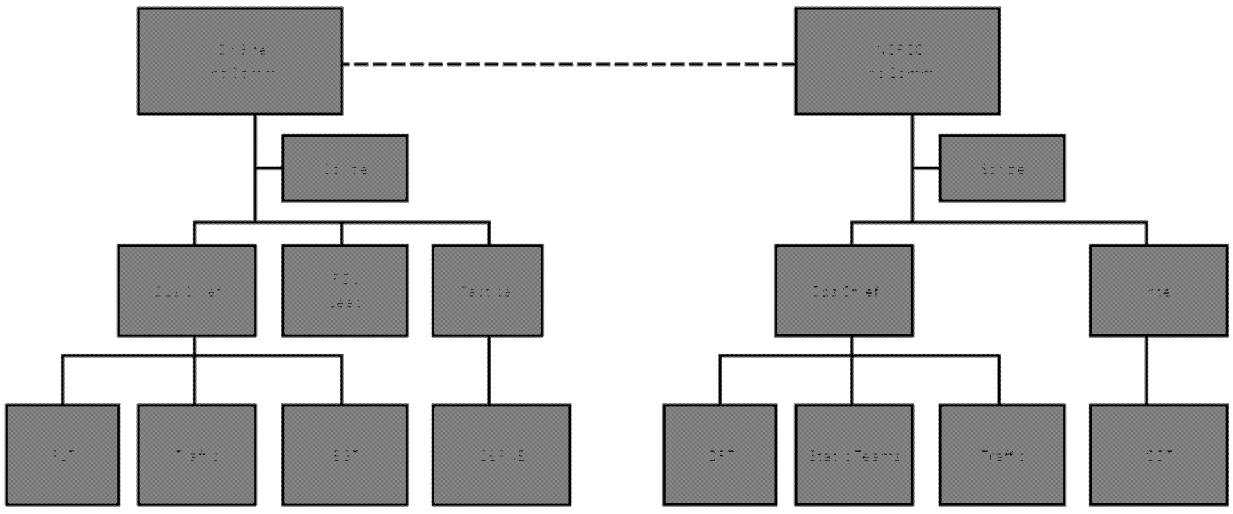
The Site Incident Commander for this event will be <<identify>>.

The NCRCC Incident Commander will be <<identify>>.

The Site Operations Chief will be <<identify>> who will accompany the Site Incident Commander.

The

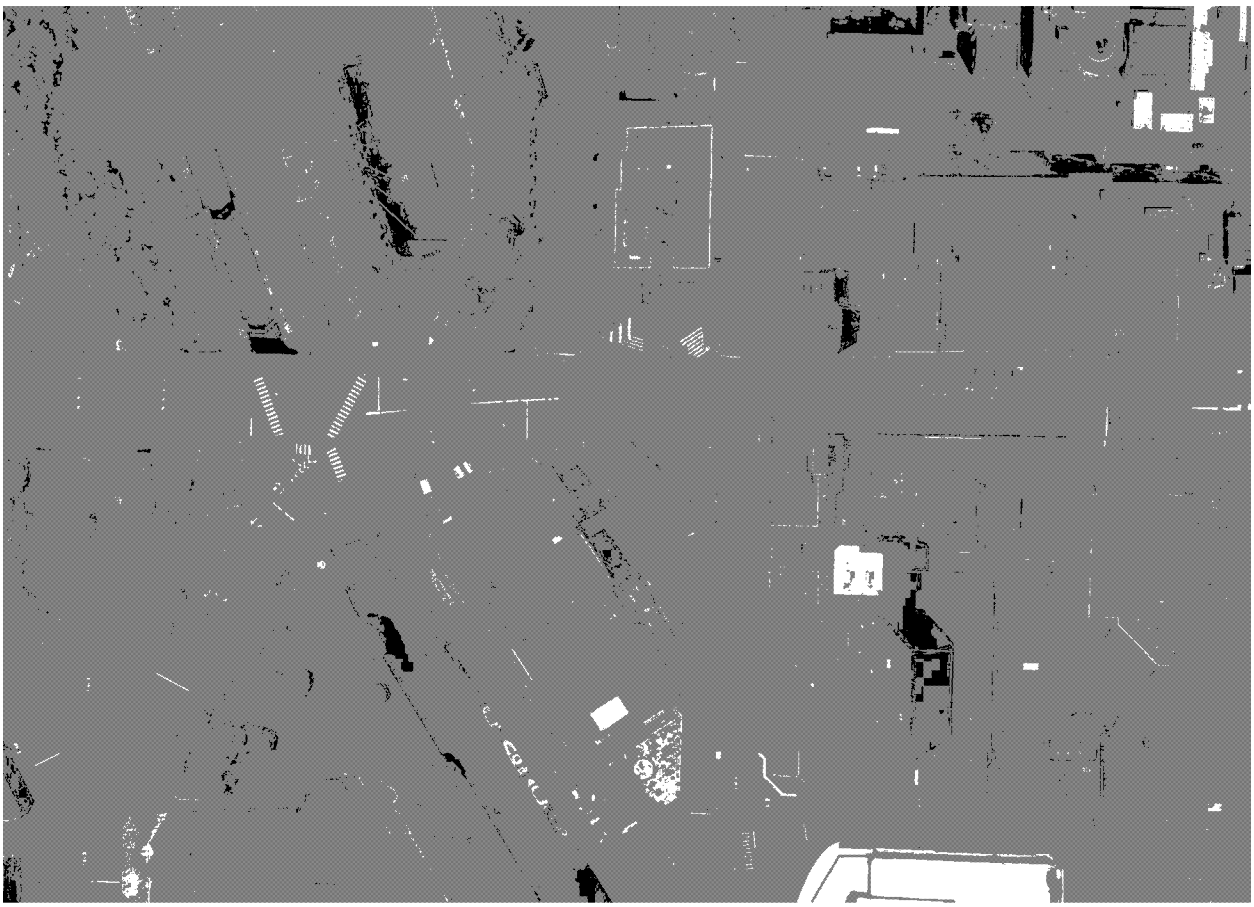
Org Chart

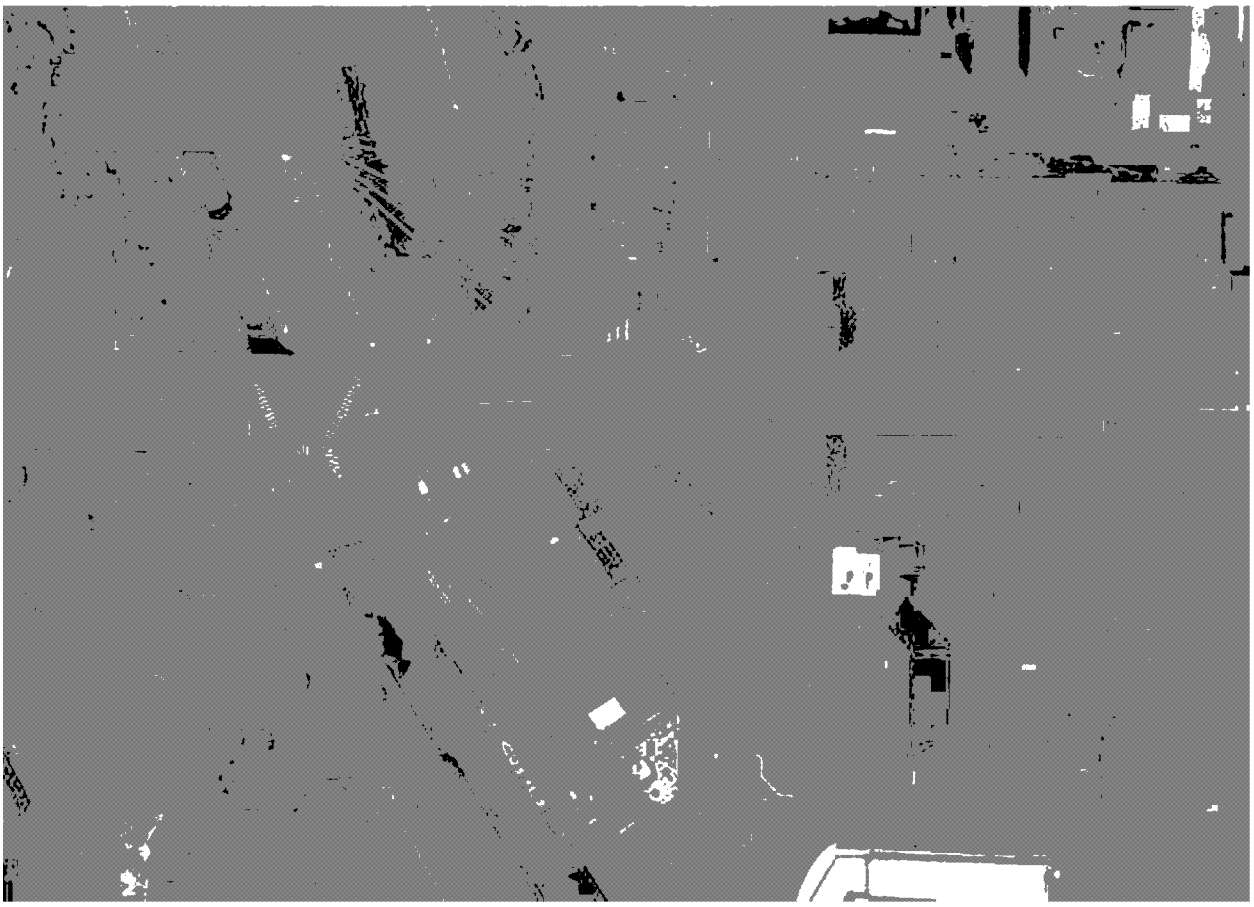


Communication

Members deployed under this plan will use <<radio channel to be identified>>.

Appendix A – Map of Area





Appendix B – List of Contacts

Agency	Contact	Number	Support
City Roads	REDACTED		Traffic operations, barricades, signage and general supports
City Barricades			Heavy barricades and heavy equipment
OC Transpo			Temp shelter for occupiers if required
Ottawa Paramedics	TBI		Medical Support (on-site)
Ottawa Fire	TBI		Fire support (response)
Ottawa Bylaw	TBI		Parking, animal control
CAS	TBI		Child-safety when required